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1911

2011

THE DAILY

MISSISSIPPIAN

CELEBRATING OUR HUNDREDTH YEAR | THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI | SERVING OLE MISS AND OXFORD SINCE 1911 | WWW.THEDMONLINE.COM

Mississippi pounded by mother nature



ADDISON DENT | The Daily Mississippian

Oxford firefighter John Russel marks a house as being checked on County Road 419 Tuesday afternoon. The house was vacant when the tornado tore through the area.

BY JACOB BATTE AND
CAIN MADDEN
The Daily Mississippian

For the past two days, the Southeastern region of the United States has been hit hard by severe weather, including multiple tornados. While the Ole Miss Campus

made it out relatively unharmed by the storm, some areas Layfayette county was pounded by tornadoes.

The Mississippi Emergency Management Agency received initial reports of damage from 48 counties across the state and the Mississippi Band of Choc-

taw Indians, including 11 confirmed storm related deaths, from the severe weather system, which moved through Tuesday night on into Wednesday. Damage assessments are still ongoing. Entergy Mississippi reported that over 35,000 Mississippi homes were without power Wednesday.

One of the confirmed dead is an Alabama police officer who took his daughter camping. When the weather turned bad he shielded his daughter to protect her. He was struck by a tree limb and died.

Of those confirmed dead,

See WEATHER, PAGE 5

Colonel Reb radio ad causes controversy

BY JACOB BATTE
The Daily Mississippian

Ever since Colonel Reb was removed from the sidelines of University sporting events in 2003 the students at Ole Miss have been clamoring for a mascot to represent them.

In 2009, then Associated Student Body President Artair Rogers set in motion the idea of a new mascot for the University.

In 2010 13,310 alumni, faculty and students showed enough support for Rebel Black Bear that it was chosen to be the new mascot for Ole Miss. Only 3,366 students voted.

Since choosing Rebel the Black Bear, the University has been in

a constant debate, with one side wanting Rebel the Black Bear to remain as the mascot, and the other, better known as the Col. Reb Foundation, pushing for Col. Reb to be brought back.

Recently, another chapter to the struggle has been added when a radio ad promoting the Col. Reb Foundation was pulled from radio stations in Oxford and Grenada. It ran during the broadcast of an Ole Miss Softball game on 101.3 FM.

The Col. Reb Foundation immediately released a press release stating that Ole Miss athletic director Pete Boone had told the radio station manager that if he did not pull the ad from the air then “there was a potential loss of

thousands of dollars in advertising from Ole Miss.”

This led to some confusion as it turned out that it was not Pete Boone that had asked for the radio ad to be removed but instead Michael Thompson, the Senior Associate Athletics Director for Communications and Marketing.

Howie Morgan, a member of the Colonel Reb Foundation, said that originally the radio station had told him that it was Boone. Even though that did not turn out to be true Morgan said that regardless of who made the call he knows who made the decision.

“It’s like the president didn’t call you, but the vice president called you, OK same thing.” Morgan said. “I mean who does Thomp-

son speak for? Pete Boone.

Kellie Norton, student chairperson of the Col. Reb Foundation, said originally Boone denied that the call even happened.

“Then we got onto him about it and he said it happened but that he got someone else to call,” Norton said.

“So they said that someone from the athletics department called, and we kept pushing and pushing them asking who called and finally they said Michael Thompson.”

Norton said she was confused by the ad being pulled.

“I think it’s ridiculous, I think it’s a bullying effect,” Norton said.

See COLONEL REB, PAGE 6

this week

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Decorating Year Round Using Flowers

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Diversity Rocks events will take place in the Overby Center throughout the day. For more information, visit diversityrocksonline.org.

online

PHOTO GALLERY

TORNADO AFTERMATH



inside

LIFESTYLES

DOUBLE DECKER GUIDE





BY JOSH CLARK
Cartoonist



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creative assistants

Meet the new boss, same as the old one



BY ANDREW DICKSON
Columnist

Let's play a game.
The rules are simple: I ask you a few questions about political policy, and you select which president enacted each one.
Your options for each question are "G.W. Bush," "Obama" or "both."
First, which president proposed a record-breaking budget to Congress of more than \$3 trillion dollars and an expensive health care bill during his presidency?
Next, which president authorized a multi-billion dollar stimulus package during a recession and bailed out a number of large banks and corporations, some of which he received campaign contributions from?
Lastly, which president

helped begin an undeclared "war" and led a coalition of more than 10 countries to launch military strikes against at least one nation in the Middle East?
How recent some of these events are (such as the 2010 passage of "Obama-care") and how widely reported others were may play a part in your responses.
Which side of the political spectrum you fall on may have also influenced your answers, but you've likely put some consideration into which way you think I lean on the political scale.
Before giving the answers, I'll give the facts:
President Obama proposed a \$3.6 trillion budget for the 2010 fiscal year to accompany

the aforementioned health care bill. Former President George W. Bush proposed a \$3.1 trillion budget for the 2009 fiscal year and passed the Medicare Modernization Act in 2003.
Bush received a total of \$1.4 million in campaign contributions from Morgan Stanley, Goldman Sachs, Citigroup and J.P. Morgan Chase and then bailed them out under the Troubled Asset Relief Act of 2008.
Obama, who received \$2.9 million in campaign funds from the very same group of banks, also helped bail them out with a second round of Troubled Asset Relief Program spending in 2009.
A "war" is two armies fighting. Bush launched Operation Iraqi Freedom on March 20,

2003, without a declaration of war from Congress.
Obama launched Operation Odyssey Dawn in Libya almost eight years later to the day on March 19, 2011 without even an authorization from Congress for the use of force, let alone a declaration of war.
The short answer to all three questions is "both."
This game was suggested to me by a member of "the most active political organization on campus," according to James Robertson, a chapter leader for the Young Americans for Liberty (YAL) branch on the Ole Miss campus.
In fact, the questions and facts found in this column were provided to the local
See BOSS, PAGE 3



Spending is out of control

BY KENNETH JONES
Columnist

It seems that any time you turn on the TV these days, unless you purposely and stringently do everything you can to avoid it, you end up hearing something about one of two things: money and medicine or, more specifically, America's financial difficulties and Medicare.

We have been hearing about money issues for three years now, ever since the economic crisis of 2008, and we have become familiar with debates and arguments about health care since President Obama attempted to reform it in 2009. Now, the two have merged in the form of Republican calls for the government to slash funding to Medicare as an austerity measure that they say will ultimately help our economy.

I am not an economics major, and math has always been my least favorite subject, but I am prepared to go out on a limb and suggest that the Republicans may be right

in saying that cuts are necessary.

If the government stops spending money on Medicare, then the government will have more money. It is simple logic: If I don't spend the \$20 in my wallet on books, then I have saved that \$20 for something else. (I acknowledge that the intricacies of our massive economy are far more complicated but, again, I am not an economist.)

But say that instead of spending that \$20 on books for my education or because I consider reading an enjoyable pastime, I end up spending that \$20 on gumballs. Many people, myself included, might think I wasted the money I supposedly saved by buying something so unnecessary and contrary to my short- and long-term needs. In short, the \$20 will eventually be spent — the only question is on what.

So, while cutting government funding to Medicare might actually save the government money, I am left wondering just what we might spend that money on,

and what we already spend our money on. There is a lot of talk in Washington, D.C., about cutting spending "hither, thither and yon." We are continually being told that "nothing is off the table," including entitlement programs such as Social Security and Medicare. Every now and again, someone might suggest cutting defense spending, but more often than not, we hear vociferous exclamations that defense spending cannot be touched.

In short, cuts to government-funded health care are permissible to solve our current financial troubles, but cuts to defense spending — to our ability to build weapons, train soldiers to invade foreign countries, launch spy satellites — are unimaginable to the American government's psyche.

America's latest war — if you are having trouble keeping up with our war-making, I am talking about our war in Libya — began on March 19. On the first day of American aerial bombardment, 110 Tomahawk missiles were fired

into Libya. At a construction cost of \$600,000 each, those 110 missiles cost America \$66 million. That is just the construction cost, which doesn't include the cost of maintenance, storage or training people to build, maintain and launch these weapons. That's \$66 million for one day of a war many Americans probably do not understand or want us to be a part of.

Meanwhile, as part of so-called austerity cuts, Gov. Jan Brewer of Arizona cut state funding to a program that paid for organ transplants for people who needed them but could not afford them. Brewer insisted that although she regretted the necessity of cutting this funding, it was imperative that she do so in order to save Arizona's economy.

For \$66 million, 83 people could receive a heart transplant, 126 people could receive a liver transplant, 146 people could receive a single lung transplant and 254 people could receive a kidney transplant. Assuming for just a

moment that we had the necessary number of organs available, the American government could have saved hundreds of American lives on March 19. Instead, we spent that money on another unnecessary war.

As the airwaves continue to be filled with often acrimonious back-and-forth arguments about the state of our economy and the need to cut such programs as Planned Parenthood, Medicare and organ transplants for those without medical insurance — to say nothing of the continuing cuts to education, infrastructure and the arts — we as a society are left with a choice.

We are rapidly approaching a moment in time when we will have to decide who and what we want to be. Will we allow programs that care for the sick and the elderly to be crippled or destroyed while we continue to make war around the world? Any society willing to sacrifice its citizens to ensure its military might is a society that cannot stand.

BOSS,

continued from page 2

chapter by the YAL national branch (and double-checked, of course).

They played this same game outside the Student Union Tuesday and plan on doing the same today.

"We support a limited, constitutional government emphasizing fiscal restraint and individual liberty," Robertson said.

"Our goal is to have an educated electorate that isn't so entrenched in party identification that they don't realize how similar the two parties are.

"Ultimately the voters put the candidates into office," Robertson continued.

"We aren't affiliated with any particular party or candidate, but we hope that when any member of the electorate goes into the ballot box — republican, democrat, libertarian or whatever — they keep these

ideals of liberty in mind and vote for like-minded candidates."

The Ole Miss YAL chapter meets Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. in Student Union 403 and can be kept up with easily on its Facebook group page.

Robertson is right, presidents and politics will never change unless we change: "Ultimately the voters put the candidates into office."

We're the ones housing thieves and snakes in office — maybe it's time we give something new a try.

Today's "hope" and "change" seem an awful lot like yesterday's. I used to doubt it, but now I believe it.

It's time to hold our politicians accountable to the Constitution, listen to what some of the third parties say and get on our knees and pray.

Don't get fooled again.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your coverage of the debt issue. This is literally the most important issue right now.

There has been a lot of discussion lately in The DM about the dangerous effects of the national debt.

Benjamin Lowery wrote a letter wondering why nobody is talking about excessive military spending. He is absolutely correct.

We spend on our military almost more than all other nations combined, and we have some 900 bases in over 130 nations. That's an empire bigger than Rome.

Whether maintaining that level of international presence supports or injures our national security is no longer the point. With a national debt exceeding \$14 trillion that rises literally by the minute, we just simply lack the money.

We can no longer afford

welfare, funding for the arts, pork barrel projects, the war on drugs, half of the presidential cabinet, congressional pensions (which nobody talks about) or the American empire. If we hope to stave off economic collapse, we need to get serious about spending cuts. Otherwise, the budget crisis will be the least of our problems.

Colton Robichaud
Oxford, MS

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THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN EDITORIAL BOARD

Lack of communication leaves students at risk

The Daily Mississippian Editorial Board consists of Caroline Lee, editor-in-chief; Cain Madden and Amelia Camurati, incoming editors-in-chief; Emily Roland, managing editor; Jacob Batte, incoming campus news editor; Mallory Simerville, incoming city news editor; John Mosby, incoming opinion editor; Kristie Warino, incoming lifestyles editor; Paul Katool, sports editor; Austin Miller, assistant sports editor; Kelsey Dockery, incoming design editor; and Alex Edwards, photo editor. The board meets weekly to discuss city and campus issues.

The storm clouds rolled into Oxford late Tuesday afternoon, and the campus began to panic. Students didn't know what was coming, but no one in authority seemed in any rush to ease the concern or devise a plan of action for what the maps so colorfully depicted heading toward our home.

Mass Confusion

The sirens screeched their warning part of Tuesday night and a good portion of Wednesday, scaring most everyone while not informing anyone. Something was coming, but any further details were unknown. Televisions across the state were tuned to their respective news and weather channels, trying to decide what action to take and what preparations needed to be made.

Still, no one on campus knew what was coming, but questions began to formulate.

Do we still go to class if we can't see the roads? What if we can't even walk outside without being blown over or beaten with baseball-sized hail?

For years, we have been told to make sure the administration has our cell phone numbers on file so that in case of an emergency, they can alert everyone on campus immediately.

In the course of the past 24 hours, we received three RebAlerts, all informing us that there was indeed a tornado watch in affect for Lafayette County.

However, none of us were informed of any warnings.

Noel Wilkin, Associate Provost and member of the Crisis Action team, said the RebAlert system used to be in use for both watches and warnings but believes the sirens are a more effective and immediate solution.

After it was learned that the text message was often received after the warning had expired, one of The DM cartoonists depicted a tornado leaving campus while the students stood in a pile of rubble reading their RebAlerts.

The alerts for the watches are a must, but what good are they without a follow-up? If we are informed of one problem, we need to be updated on the status, especially if the weather is escalating.

We hear the sirens, but they don't tell us what to do.

Complete Chaos

Students were informed Wednesday morning that when the sirens were heard, everyone needed to be indoors. Once the sirens had stopped for five minutes, it was then OK to leave the buildings.

However, not everyone was properly informed of this, and every building had its own way of dealing with the storm.

Students who sought shelter in the Turner Center were told they had to go to the basement if they were going to stay, but they were not required to actually stay in-

side.

Part of the Residential College was told to go to their classes, while another portion was warned against leaving the building.

Tuesday night, some students were kicked out of classes because of the sirens. Others were informed that they could leave, but that they would not have the opportunity to make up the material.

The mixed signals and unclear messages didn't cause anything but more confusion, and the lack of authority and confidence from the faculty didn't help the situation.

Every Wednesday like clockwork, the sirens are tested and a message is played to inform everyone that is only a test and to continue on with their lives. This option was not utilized and could have been the cure for much of the confusion and terror.

We commend the faculty for trying to help with the situation, but it was clear that many were just as confused and scared without a coherent leader as we were.

Many students reported not getting any specific information from a University-related organization until our staff began putting updates on Twitter Wednesday morning.

When did concern for student safety leave?

Tree branches and large objects still litter the roads and sidewalks from the torrential downpour and over 30 mph winds. False rivers and ponds have formed all over the county from the days of heavy rain.

There have been 11 confirmed storm-related deaths and more than 40 injuries, ranging from Choctow to Yazoo, and local officials believe the numbers may increase. One casualty has even been reported in our own Lafayette County.

Ethel Young-Minor said it is policy to restrict students to the building in case of a warning, and she enforced this policy at the Residential College Wednesday, despite students being told to attend their 2 p.m. classes since the warning from the National Weather Service lasted until 2:45 p.m.

"When I am in doubt about a safety concern, I try to err on the side of caution and treat students as I would want someone to treat my own children," Young-Minor said.

We have fire drills often, to prepare students and prevent chaos. Every student and faculty



KATE ANTHONY | The Daily Mississippian

Workers clean and shred tree limbs in the circle. The University and the surrounding area was hit by severe storms that caused strong winds, flash floods and tornadic activity.

member on this campus knows exactly what to do when the fire alarms go off, but few know the proper routine for tornadoes.

This is Mississippi weather.

According to the PDF created by the University, there were 42 tornados in Mississippi in 2010, with the state average being 28.

The PDF also clearly outlines what will happen when we are put under a watch or warning, along with how to take cover.

However, how many people have a flyer in their hand when a tornado strikes?

While we respect the effort of the Crisis Action Team, there is no reason why we cannot be sent an email or text message with similar instructions during the time of the emergency.

If this weather is normal to our part of the country, we should be more prepared to handle such a situation. We have multiple fire drills a year, but tornado drills do not seem to be as important.

It is the University's responsibility to inform those out-of-state and international students who have never experienced typ-

ical tornado weather on how to take cover and stay safe by more than a flyer they might catch a glimpse of in passing.

Weather is unpredictable. Even the most skilled technology and trained meteorologist can predict it wrong, and we understand that.

The fact still remains that even if the predictions are wrong, and the weather misses us like it fortunately did (for the most part) in the past 24 hours, we still need to be prepared to warn students in advance what will happen if the weather does become a hazard, not in the middle of the funnel cloud.

We believe the University needs to utilize the technology we have to the fullest extent and to prepare students and faculty more before the next situation gets here.

The storm has finally passed, and the damage cannot be undone. The most we can hope for now is that we as a community will learn from this experience and be more prepared next April when tornado season rolls back around.

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Cathead Vodka & Lazy Magnolia

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Fri 4/29: Blue Mountain
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WEATHER,
continued from page 1



ADDISON DENT | The Daily Mississippian

only one happened in Lafayette County. The Oxford Eagle reported Wednesday that a 57-year old truck driver lost control of his 18-wheeler on country road 257 during a thunder storm and hit a tree that had fallen down from the storms earlier that night.

While there is only one confirmed death in the county, several Lafayette county homes were destroyed during the storm.

Madison Abbott's husband, who is a biology student at Ole Miss, had just returned home, when the couple looked out the window and saw something strange.

"Five minutes after Jeremy had gotten home, we saw our things flying around in the yard," Madison Abbott said. "We ducked down into the basement. It was a pretty powerful storm.

"You don't really worry about your stuff when something like that is happening, you just worry about your life, but God pulled us through."

Abbott said this was their second rental home to be struck by a tornado.

"This is the second round, but we will get through it," Abbott said.

Wednesday afternoon, the couple was being helped by a group from Yellowleaf Baptist Church.

"I'm really grateful that people

are here to help," Abbott said. "We have received tons from our church and from our community."

Sheriff F.D. "Buddy" East confirmed that at least two tornados touched down in Lafayette County. East said that properties had been damaged, and that trees and power lines were down in roads across the county.

"It is like the tornados set down in different places in one time," East said.

East said the most important goal for Lafayette County was making sure that everyone was well.

"We are concentrating on finding everyone and making sure everyone is OK," East said. "We also have to keep control, keep traffic control and keep everyone off these hot wires."

While East can only confirm two tornados in Oxford, a super cell that passed over the town produced at least six confirmed tornados.

Those tornados appeared in Taylor, on Mississippi 6 just outside of Denmark, in Water Valley, on County Road 419 and the split where Mississippi 7 and 9 meet.

The tornados just outside of Denmark and in Water Valley had winds up to 60 mph, and the tornado in Taylor was described as "large and violent."

Early Wednesday morning there were reports of a tornado on Thacker Heights Drive. The National Weather Service was unable to confirm whether it was a tornado that hit that area, but the storm did cause severe damage to the Links apartment complex and the Woodlawn subdivision.

The Oxford Eagle reported that the Caterpillar plant in Oxford suffered severe damage and that several of the cars in the parking lot have been destroyed.

Despite the weather city officials confirmed that neither the Lafayette County School system nor Oxford City School system both remained in school.

The Oxford Eagle reported that students in the schools were taken to safe areas around 10 a.m., and they remained there until the tornado warning had been officially lifted by the National Weather Service.

Double Decker will still be held this weekend on the Square as planned.

Even though Oxford is still under River Flood and Flash Flood warnings, WeatherChannel.com is predicting a 0% chance of rain for today, Friday and Saturday and a 40% chance of rain on Sunday. Oxford should expect clear skies for Double Decker, with winds topping out at 14 miles per hour.

Houses along County Road 419 were heavily damaged yesterday when a tornado swept through the area.



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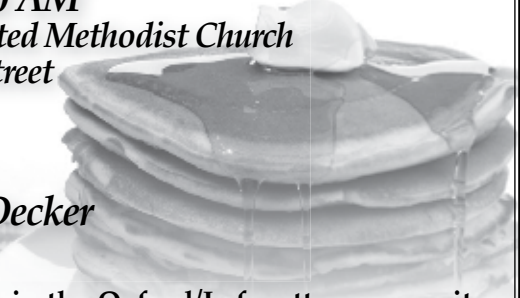
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COLONEL REB,
continued from page 5

“We have just as much right as every other student organization to have a commercial played, no matter what time of day, no matter what radio station. So obviously he doesn’t like us too much, and I understand that, but what I don’t understand is his reasoning.”

Morgan said that the biggest question he has is why?

“I don’t care who called,” Morgan said. “But why did they care about us running ads on a radio station? Why did they make a demand of us saying that we can’t do this? This is a student run organization, you don’t like their ads? You don’t like their ideas?”

Norton, a junior journalism major, said that while she is upset that the ad was pulled, she is not going to fight to get it back on the air.

“I don’t think it’s worth it to fight with Pete Boone,” Norton said.

“It’s kind of childish. He couldn’t call himself, he had to get Michael Thompson to call and be the bad guy. So we’re going to move on to bigger and better things. We’re going to make more radio commercials, maybe they’ll get pulled off, maybe they won’t, we’ll see.”

While Thompson, a 2001 graduate of Ole Miss, admitted that he did call the radio station, he said that the story brought forth by the Col. Reb Foundation has over exaggerated the facts.

“The radio spot was anti-ole miss athletics,” Thompson said.

“It didn’t make a lot of sense for us to broadcast our softball games, and in the commercial breaks run an anti-ole miss athletic commercial.”

Thompson said he was driving

home, listening to the Lady Rebels play, when he first heard the commercial. He said he became confused while listening.

He said that he called the radio station and asked them if they thought it was appropriate to advertise that particular commercial in between the innings of an Ole Miss broadcast.

“I was actually kind of conflicted about it because I don’t want to tell someone they can’t raise the money they need to raise, so I just posed the question,” Thompson said.

“I didn’t even ask for an answer right then, I told them to think about it and they could make their own decision.”

Thompson said there is one thing that he wanted to be really clear about.

“I didn’t tell that radio station to do anything,” Thompson said.

“I didn’t because it is not me, it is not my style.”

Thompson said that he was surprised when he saw the press release that the Col. Reb Foundation sent out.

“It uses words like Gestapo and censorship and all this stuff about Pete (Boone), and I was like you’ve got to be kidding me.” Thompson said. “It’s just sensationalism at its best.”

Regardless of who did what, Thompson said that he is just ready for all of this to be over.

“I really would like to just get back to making our fan experience better,” Thompson said. “We’ve got bigger problems to worry about.”

Colonel Reb week underway

April 25 through the 29 is only five days yet at the same time it is

also the host of three weeks.

Stress Less week and Diversity Rocks each began this week, and now Colonel Reb week, sponsored by the Col. Reb Foundation.

Norton, who came up with the idea for Col. Reb week, said she took the idea from the Dixie Week, which Ole Miss used to hold back in the 1980’s.

“People used to go out to Sardis and celebrate Ole Miss, eating shrimp and drinking beer,” Norton said.

“We didn’t want to make it that extreme, but we wanted to celebrate colonel as a whole because students nowadays don’t really have a chance to actually see the colonel, hang out with him, or buy colonel merchandise.”

The week began on Monday with members of the Col. Reb Foundation going to each of the Fraternity and Sorority houses to spread the word about the week.

On Tuesday they asked each of the Col. Reb supporters to come to school wearing their Col. Reb gear.

Col. Reb was supposed to make an appearance in the student section of the Ole Miss baseball game, but the Diamond Rebels meeting with Arkansas Pine-Bluff was canceled due to the weather conditions.

Norton said they wanted to start the week off pretty easy, to let students come back from the Easter break, and get right back into school before they go out with a bang at the end of the week.

Today is the biggest day as far as events go for the week.

At 4 p.m., the Col. Reb Foundation, led by Norton with the many students that they have recruited, will deliver their petitions to Chancellor Dan Jones in the Lyceum. Norton said that they are expecting to deliver over 4,300



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

Colonel Reb attends the Jacksonville St. football game last fall. The Col. Reb Foundation is hosting Colonel Reb week this week to celebrate the Colonel. The Foundation is delivering approximately 4,300 petitions to Chancellor Dan Jones to attempt to bring Col. Reb back to Ole Miss.

petitions to the Chancellor.

“I already went by the Lyceum and warned them,” Norton said.

“I told them that we are coming by with petitions, because we want to be fair in this process, and I just let them know that there might be media here so warn Dan Jones and let him know we’re coming.”

Later on that night the Col. Reb Foundation will be hosting their first ever Louisiana Black Bear hunt. Students can buy bear hunting licenses for \$20 outside of Taylor’s Pub.

The license will get the student into participating bars, which includes The Levee, Frank and Marlees, The Library, The Cel-lar, and the Round Table, just to name a few, for free.

Once participants have vis-

ited each participating bar and received a sticker then you can return to the table outside of Tay-lor’s and get a free Col. Reb Black Bear hunt t-shirt and have your picture taken with Col. Reb, who will have a fake slain black bear.

“We know that a lot of students in Oxford like to drink and have fun on the Square so we decided one way to really have fun with the colonel is to have a bear hunt.” Norton said.

“We’re expecting a lot of student participation. It’s going to be a really cool event, and a lot of fun.”

On Friday ,Col. Reb will be at Lafayette place at 1 p.m. to host a pre-game party, and he will be around the Square during Double Decker.

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The above listing of these areas does not indicate certification of expertise herein.

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Brian Foster

“‘Crank Dat Soulja Boy’: Understanding Black Male Hip Hop Aspirations in Rural Mississippi”

Thursdays, April 28th 1:00 p.m.

Honors College Room 106

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

SENIOR HONORS THESIS PRESENTATION

Anna Donnell

“An Exploration of Process Observation and Practical Application in Devised Theatre”

Thursdays, April 28th 5:00 p.m.

Honors College Room 311

The defense is open to the public.

If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

Dennis brings campaign trail to Ole Miss

BY JAKE THOMPSON
The Daily Mississippian

Republican gubernatorial candidate Dave Dennis visited with students of Ole Miss Wednesday night.

The Ole Miss College Republicans sponsored the event. Dennis was joined by current Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour’s brother, Jeppie Barbour.

Dennis, a republican primary candidate, is running for governor for the first time.

“Leadership is leadership, in whatever level you come from,” Dennis said.

The Pass Christian resident talked about how he is the best man to fill

the shoes Governor Barbour is leaving behind this year.

“There will be an unbelievable leadership void in this state when Haley is gone,” Dennis said. “I feel like I have the best skill set to take that and continue to run with it and continue the momentum he has helped develop.”

A main stay in the Dennis’s speech to the students was to take whatever skills they have and run with them to help provide a better future for the state of Mississippi.

Jeppie Barbour, former mayor of Yazoo City, was there to discuss the topic of voter ID and voter registration. Barbour talked about the rules and all the options that are available to students who want to vote rang-

ing from filling out a simple voter registration card to an absentee ballot if you are registered in a different county than Lafayette.

Also on Barbour’s agenda was to talk about a new amendment that would help voters prove they are actually the person they claim to be and not voting for a different person which would eliminate voter scams.

In closing Dennis spoke to the students about their college years and treasuring every friendship and relationship made during their time here.

Party primaries are in August with the general election for Governor taking place in November of this year.

Friday - AT&T South Stage		Saturday - Cathead Vodka South Stage	
6 p.m. - 7 p.m.	Black Joe Lewis and the Honeybears	11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Rising Star Fife and Drum
		12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Valerie June
7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	Okkervil River	2 p.m. - 3 p.m.	Shooting out the Lights
		3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Eric Lindell
9 p.m. - 11 p.m.	Old Crow Medicine Show	5 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Glen David Andrews
		Saturday - Budweiser North Stage	
		11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Aaron Hall
		1 p.m. - 2 p.m.	Jimmy Phillips Band
		2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Lost Bayou Ramblers
		4 p.m. - 5 p.m.	Justin Townes Earle
		5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.	Cedric Burnside
		7 p.m. - 8 p.m.	North Mississippi Allstars



FILE PHOTOS | The Daily Mississippian

The Library

Thursday

ONE MILE SOUTH

Bear Crawl

North Mississippi Allstars to play at Double Decker

BY CALLIE DANIELS
The Daily Mississippian

The Grammy-winning North Mississippi Allstars will play this Saturday at 7 p.m. on the Budweiser North Stage during the Double Decker Arts Festival.

North Mississippi Allstars got its start in 1996 with Luther and Cody Dickinson, sons of the music legend Jim Dickinson.

Jim Dickinson was a Memphis record producer for 40 years before passing away in 2009.

He was a huge influence on his two sons as they grew up in Tennessee and North Mississippi.

The production company Dickinson worked with produced for artists like the Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and Primal Scream.

The Dickinsons were friends with the families of Otha Turner, R.L. Burnside and Junior Kimbrough. These families were the inspiration for Luther and Cody Dickinson when they started North Mississippi Allstars.

Luther Dickinson is the lead guitarist and vocalist, Cody

Dickinson plays the drums, keyboard and the electric washboard and Chris Chew plays the electric bass guitar.

The band has been nominated for three Grammy awards and won a Blues Music Award in 2001 for “Best New Artist Debut.”

North Mississippi Allstars has released 15 albums, the most recent of which is “Keys to the Kingdom.”

Luther Dickinson is a well-known musician, featured as one of the “guitar gods” in the Rolling Stone magazine.

He has been compared to the likes of Jimi Hendrix and Duane Allman in his guitar-playing style and currently plays for both North Mississippi Allstars and the Black Crowes.

Cody Dickinson also plays for Hill Country Revue, which is occasionally joined by Luther Dickinson and Burnside Family Music.

The death of their father in deeply affected both Luther and Cody Dickinson.

They were playing with their separate bands when this oc-



COURTESY NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALLSTARS | The Daily Mississippian

curred, but in their desire to live up to their father’s wish that they play together, they reformed the band last year.

The newest album, “Keys to the Kingdom: The Songs of the South” has been the band’s “finest collaboration, Luther said.

Their childhood home in the

South was the main inspiration for their music.

“When we were little children, we lived in a house on a dirt road between a juke joint and a lake where local churches held baptismal services,” Luther Dickinson said.

“I remember hearing the mu-

sic come through the woods at night and on Sunday mornings.”

The band will be showcased at the Double Decker Festival this weekend. After this local show, the band will continue its tour to Italy and go around Europe for the summer.

Mikhail V. Margelov: The Voice of Russia

APRIL 28, 2011 · 2:30 P.M. · OVERBY CENTER

Join us as Mikhail Margelov addresses issues pertinent to global current events, such as the situation in the Arab world, Russian modernization and U.S.-Russia relations.

Margelov is chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Federation Council of the Russian Federation and chairman of the European Democrat group of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. He has worked as consultant to President Vladimir Putin’s electoral headquarters, director of the Russian Information Center, head of the Public Relations Department of the Presidential Administration, chief coordinator for advertising under Boris Yeltsin and project director for Video International Group.

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Turnout expected to exceed previous years

BY MALLORY SIMERVILLE
AND MARIDANE HEWES
The Daily Mississippian

This coming weekend the Square will host about 55,000 people from across state for the 16th annual Double Decker Art Festival.

The event is hosted by the Oxford Convention and Visitors Bureau and will be stretched over two days, featuring several headlining musical guests.

In past years, the festival has been fit into one day, but this year Okkervil River, Black Joe Lewis and the Honeybears, and Old Crow Medicine will perform Friday night while Saturday will feature 136 artists as well as eleven bands throughout the day.

With the change in scheduling, comes a change in price. Friday night will now charge an admission fee. Saturday will remain free and feature the annual events.

VIP tickets to the concert were sold for \$25, allowing attendees to bring a lawn chair to an area that seats 100-150 people. VIP tickets sold out quickly, leaving general admission tickets on sale for \$10. In a addition to the musical guests, Friday night event will feature food vendors Party Dogs and Taylor Grocery, as well as access to the bars along South Lamar. Mary Allyn Roulhac, the tourism manager at the Oxford Convention and Visitors Bureau said they are expecting a huge turnout on Friday night and encouraged the online purchasing of tickets at www.doubledeckerfestival.com.

Mary Kathryn Millner, Oxford Convention and Vistors Bureau director of tourism said that this year is a learning year, and that if things aren't successful they will consider going back to having the event on one night.

Activities Saturday include art and food venders, music, and the children's Square Fair. The various bands will perform on two stage and feature a wide range of genres including bluegrass, jazz, gospel, blues, country, folk, zydeco and regional rock-and-roll groups.

For the kids, the Square Fair, sponsored by the Mississippi Arts Commission, will host an array of activities,

including face painting, a donut hole eating contest, musicians, clowns, storytelling and a train. It will be held behind the Oxford University Club and Thompson building.

One of the main events is the pet costume contest in the afternoon.

"The event really brings out families because they can enjoy everything from shopping for art, food and the children's area," Roulhac said. "I think (free admission) definitely attracts a lot more visitors than probably if we had an admissions festival."

Roulhac said, Double Decker is a great tourism attraction for Oxford, and most hotels are already booked. She said they are expecting between 50,000 to 55,000 people to attend.

The past two years have seen a large number of guests, but Roulhac said she expects an even larger crowd with the addition of the Friday night musical performance. Double Decker has developed into an Oxford tradition. The name comes from the arrival of the city's very own Double Decker bus from England in 1994.

"Since we have the double decker buses, it becomes a staple in Oxford," Roulhac said. "I think people have made it their tradition in the spring. I know a lot of people plan their trips to come to Oxford that particular weekend."

The Convention and Visitors Bureau will also partner with the Oxford Bike Association and Chamber of Commerce as they host a Spring Run and Road Ride.

"A lot of people come down for these specific events and then end up staying for the festival," Roulhac said.

One of the goals of the event is to ensure it pays for itself.

According to an article in the Oxford Eagle, the festival will cost an additional \$30,000 with a total budget of \$170,000.

Workers will begin construction on the stage early Friday morning, as well as the Square being closed off Saturday for art venders.

Saturday's events will take place from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., except for the Square Fair which will close at 5 p.m.

For more information and a list of artists and vendors, visit www.oxfordcvb.com/doubledecker.

Bicycle enthusiasts come together for charity



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

The annual Double Decker Spring Ride will be held on Saturday, April 30. The event is hosted by the Oxford Cycling Club, and they offer three different route options, including a 24, 50, and 66 mile ride.

BY KATHERINE WESTFALL
The Daily Mississippian

The annual Double Decker Spring Ride will be held on Saturday, Apr. 30, in conjunction with the Double Decker Arts Festival.

The Oxford Cycling Club will host the event, along with the help of the Oxford Bicycle Company and Active Oxford.

In order to allow people to participate in both the Double Decker Spring Run and the Spring Ride, the board of directors has decided to move the starting time of the ride from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m.

The starting line has been moved as well.

Since the 5K ends in the parking lot of Mid Town Shopping Center, the staff has decided to begin the ride there so that participants do not have to hurry to the starting line.

"We want everyone (who) wants to ride to be able to," Ryan McCready, event director, said.

As always, the Spring Ride is a non-competitive ride that meanders throughout the back roads of Oxford and Lafayette County to the shores of Sardis Lake.

The distances of the ride routes vary greatly, but they make sure to offer a ride to every level of cyclist.

Each of the rides varies in dis-

ance, with routes of 24, 50 and 66 miles.

The staff of the Spring Ride has created a new distance in an attempt to attract more families. A 10-mile distance will be added to the agenda this year for less experienced riders.

Families are invited to bring the children and take a leisurely ride around town.

There will be a rolling team of supporters along the ride routes with snacks and refreshing drinks for tuckered-out riders. Also, the ride offers mechanical support from Oxford Bicycle Company should a bike chain decide to break mid-ride.

However, the Spring Ride is about more than just getting out and getting active in the wee hours of the morning before the festivities of Double Decker begin.

The race is also held to help raise money for the Oxford Cycling Club and several charities around the city and state.

The Spring Ride is the Oxford Cycling Club's main fundraiser every year.

Since the group is a non-profit, the money made through the ride's admission prices goes straight to its funds for other various projects and rides throughout the year. Other than helping to fund the club, a

large part of the proceeds is given to charities involved with the ride.

This year's charities are two local animal shelters that operate on tight budgets helping animals find homes.

"I want to encourage people to come out because the ride is for a good cause," McCready said. "It supports not only the local cycling community but the local and state community as well."

The Spring Ride is a great opportunity for the people of Oxford and anyone else who loves a nice bike ride.

McCready believes that it is a great way to incorporate something active into the Double Decker Festival, and he couldn't be more correct.

Registration for the ride is currently open online at racesonline.com, and late registration will take place at Active Oxford on Friday from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m.

If you wake up on Saturday morning and decide that you would like to ride, the staff will be doing on-site registration and check-in beginning at 7:30 a.m.

The prices for registration along with additional information can be found at oxfordcycling.org.

So get out there and enjoy a bike ride before the Double Decker festivities begin.

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SENIOR
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PRESENTATION
Marie Wicks
"Swing Into Action: The
Political and Aesthetic Role
of Jazz in Nazi Germany and
Occupied France"
THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
MCDONNELL
BARKSDALE
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COLLEGE
Thursday, April 28th
9:00 a.m.
Croft Building
Boardroom
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If you require special assistance relating to a
disability, please contact Penny Leeton at
662-915-7266.

Diamond Rebels’ season on the brink

BY AUSTIN MILLER
The Daily Mississippian

Past the halfway point of the Southeastern Conference portion of the season, the Ole Miss baseball team finds itself in a three-way tie for first place in the SEC West. Lost in this statement, however, is a relatively disappointing .500 winning percentage and a brutal stretch to end conference play.

A team always seems to hit its stride and separate itself from the pack about this time. It’s no different this year and could be any of the five teams — Ole Miss, Arkansas, Auburn, Alabama or Mississippi State — in the SEC West logjam. All five teams have had their moments this season, both good and bad. Each could go on a run like LSU did in 2008.

At this point in 2008, LSU had just lost two out of three at home to Georgia and held a 23-16-1 (6-11-1 SEC) record before going on to win its final 16 regular-season games and four straight games in the SEC Tournament en route to its first College World Series since 2004. That’s not to say Ole Miss or any of the SEC West teams will repeat this feat, but baseball, perhaps more than any other sport, is about momentum; the better team does not necessarily always win. That same year in 2008, Fresno State made a Cinderella run as a number four seed and upset Georgia to win the National Championship. Much has been said about the missed opportunities and inconsistencies of this year’s team, but

something can also be said for a team that plays through adversity. Junior left-hander Matt Crouse has shown flashes of dominance, and junior right-hander Jake Morgan is expected to make his return from a right shoulder injury this weekend to solidify the bullpen, led by freshman right-hander Bobby Wahl. Wahl is a perfect 3-for-3 in save opportunities since taking over the closer’s role. Junior designated hitter Matt Snyder busted out of a 13-for-76 slump and has increased his batting average from .248 to .273 the last two weekends. His turnaround can be added to a lineup that already includes five batters hitting over .300, including sophomore second baseman Alex Yarbrough, sophomore outfielder Tanner Mathis, junior shortstop Blake New-

lu, senior outfielder Matt Tracy and senior first baseman and outfielder Matt Smith. Ole Miss plays two of the nation’s top five teams — No. 4 Florida and No. 3 South Carolina — in back-to-back weekends. However, a series win or even avoiding the dreaded sweep would give the Diamond Rebels some much-needed momentum before closing out the regular season against SEC West foes Mississippi State and Arkansas. With Ole Miss, Auburn and Arkansas in a three-way tie at 9-9, Alabama a game back at 8-10 and Mississippi State two games back at 7-11. Ole Miss could be playing to host a regional or could be playing for its SEC and NCAA Tournament bids come the last four weekends of the season.



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

Ole Miss junior designated hitter Matt Snyder congratulates freshman third baseman Preston Overbey after a solo home run in a 9-8 loss to Georgia. Snyder had a 5-for-12 weekend against Auburn, while Overbey also homered in last weekend’s 10-7 win at Auburn.



ALEX EDWARDS | The Daily Mississippian

Ole Miss junior Taylor Hightower takes a big cut in a 6-5 win over Kentucky. After starting the season in a platoon role with senior catcher Miles Hamblin, Hightower has took over the starting role against Tennessee and is batting .284 for the season.e.

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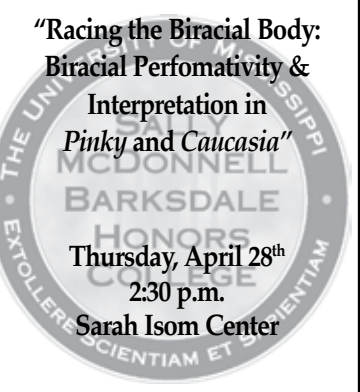
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THE DAILY MISSISSIPPIAN
The Official Newspaper of
The University of Mississippi

SENIOR
HONORS THESIS
PRESENTATION
Melody Frierson

“Racing the Biracial Body:
Biracial Performativity &
Interpretation in
Pinky and Caucasia”



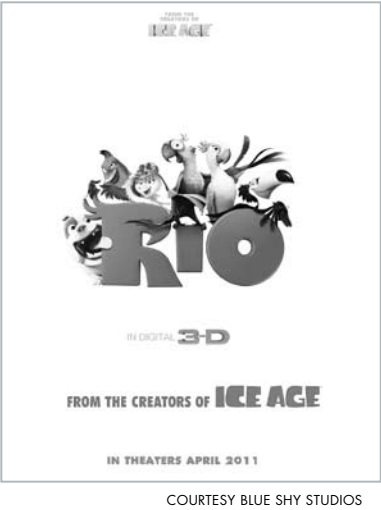
Thursday, April 28th
2:30 p.m.
Sarah Isom Center

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Summer movie previews, part II in briefs

BY MORGAN BRADLEY
The Daily Mississippian

Due to the lack of movies this week, I present you with the second part of the summer movie extravaganza.
Before that, however, a movie that came out on April 15 must be mentioned. That movie is “Rio.”



COURTESY BLUE SHY STUDIOS

“Rio” is an animated movie starring Jesse Eisenberg and Anne Hathaway.

When I heard the title of this movie, I hoped it was “The Social Network” sequel where Eisenberg plays Mark Zuckerberg and takes a vacation to Rio de Janeiro with all his money.

I was wrong on all accounts.
“Rio” is great because it is over-the-top silly and genuinely funny.

It features a male macaw named Blu (Eisenberg) who is taken by his owner to Rio de Janeiro to mate with a female macaw (Hathaway).

The only problem is that Blu is domesticated and cannot fly.

The other macaw does not want anything to do with him, which forms the basis of the story.

The movie also features George Lopez as a comedic toucan.

However, the movie is animated and has plenty of vibrant color.

I recommend skipping the 3-D version, but definitely check out this movie in the next couple

weeks before the first wave of summer movies hits.

So, with that said, let’s move on to part two of the summer blockbuster series.

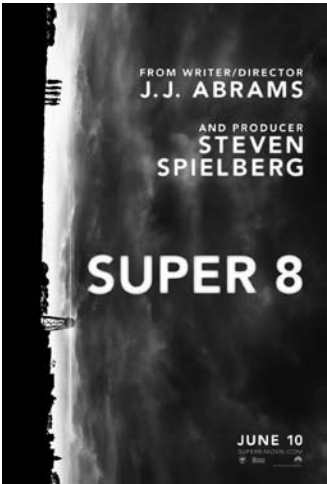


COURTESY TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX STUDIOS

“X-Men: First Class” comes out on June 3 and is the first installment in the reboot of the live action X-Men series.

It focuses primarily on the origins of the mutants when they were working for the U.S. government in the 1960s.

These mutants include Professor Charles Xavier, Erik Lensherr



COURTESY AMBLIN ENTERTAINMENT

and Hank McCoy.

“Super 8” comes out on June 10 and is an alien thriller by “Star Trek” director J.J. Abrams.

Little is actually known about the details of this movie, but it looks to be extreme.

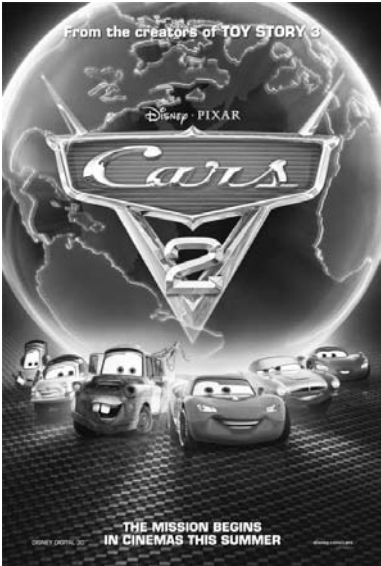


COURTESY WARNER BROS. PICTURES

“Green Lantern,” starring Ryan Reynolds, comes out on June 17 and is yet another superhero movie debuting this summer.

It follows the origins of the first human member of the Green Lantern brotherhood, Hal Jordan.

If it is anything like the comic series, it will be action-packed and full of awesome battles. It will also be in 3-D.



COURTESY DISNEY/PIXAR

“Cars 2” will be released on June 24 and is the sequel to the 2006 Pixar hit “Cars.”

It features Lightning McQueen and Mater as they go international this time around.



COURTESY PARAMOUNT PICTURES

“Transformers: Dark Side of the Moon,” coming on July 1, is the third movie in the Transformers series by Michael Bay. This movie centers around the idea that during the Apollo 11 mission, Neil Armstrong and his crew discovered a Cybertronian spacecraft. The Autobots must race to get there before the Decepticons. Maybe this time they will be able to make it without Megan Fox slowing stuff down with motorcycle shots.



COURTESY WARNER BROS. PICTURES

“Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2” can be viewed on July 15 and is the final release of the hit Harry Potter series. The inseparable trio head back to Hogwarts to find and destroy the final Horcruxes and, when Voldemort gets word, the biggest battle

of the series begins.



COURTESY MARVEL ENTERPRISES

“Captain America: The First Avenger” hits theaters on July 22 and begins the story of Captain America, a young guy who, being too small to serve, is the first guinea pig in test program for World War II soldiers to enhance them to become super soldiers.



COURTESY UNIVERSAL PICTURES

“Cowboys and Aliens” comes out on July 29 and stars Daniel Craig as a mysterious fellow who seems to be the only person around town who understands what is happening when aliens invade an early 1900s western American town.

Harrison Ford plays the old town sheriff who uses Craig to send those yellow-bellied freaks back to where they came from. It is also based on a comic book series.

SENIOR
HONORS THESIS
PRESENTATION

Leigh Cummins

“From Riches to Rags: An Analysis of Argentina’s Uneven Development from 1880 through 2010”

Thursday, April 28th
1:00 p.m.
Croft Building
Boardroom

The defense is open to the public.
If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

SENIOR
HONORS THESIS
PRESENTATION

Kyle Robbins

“Examining Local and Regional Southern Politics in the Context of Prentiss County, Mississippi”

Thursday, April 28th
3:30 p.m.
Odom Hall
1st Floor Conference Room

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SENIOR
HONORS THESIS
PRESENTATION

Sarah Gardner

Keeping Up Appearances: Analysis of the Look-at-Me Generation

Thursday, April 28th
9:00 a.m.
Honors College
Room 311

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If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

SENIOR
HONORS THESIS
PRESENTATION

Heather Daniell

“Manage My Project!”

Thursday, April 28th
2:30 p.m.
Carrier Hall
Room 213

The defense is open to the public.
If you require special assistance relating to a disability, please contact Penny Leeton at 662-915-7266.

SENIOR
HONORS THESIS
PRESENTATION

Trey Nordan

“Regional Study of Northwestern Arkansas: Growth of Wal-Mart, Tyson, and J.B. Hunt”

Thursday, April 28th
3:00 p.m.
Honors College
Room 311

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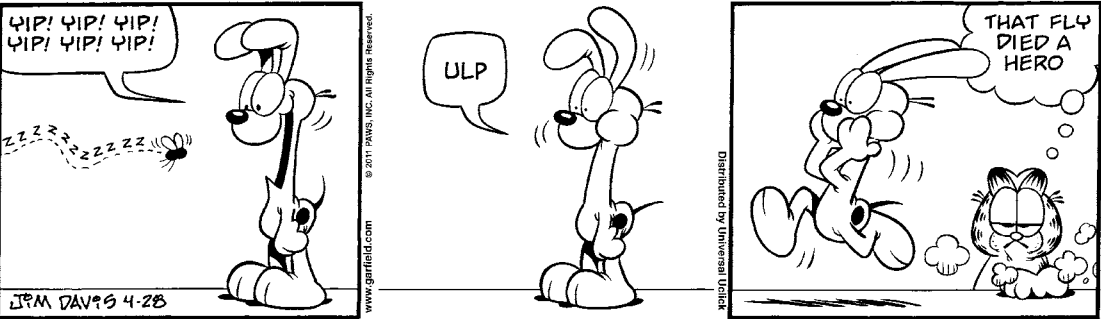
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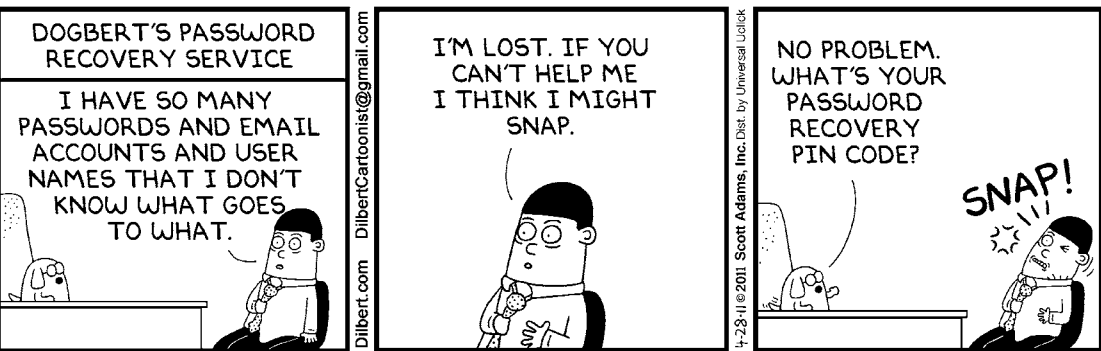
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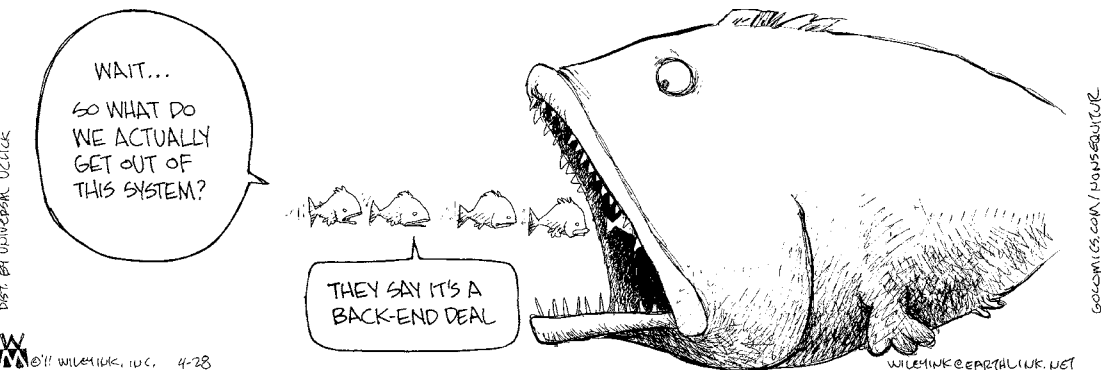
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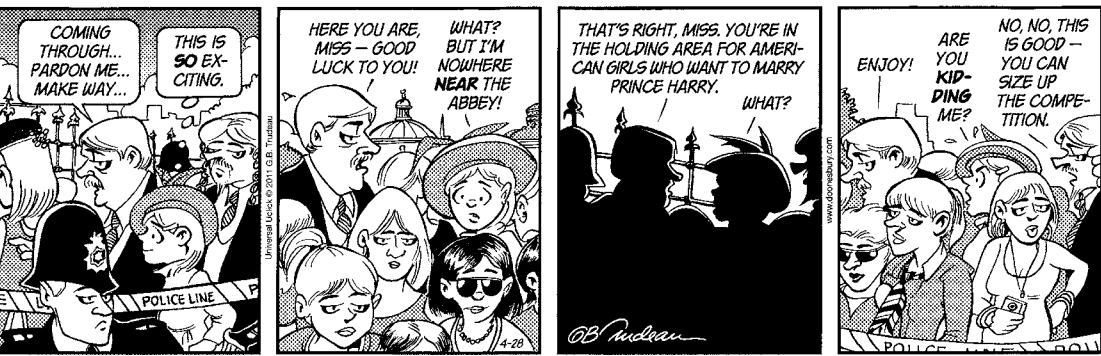
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6		8		3				
				9		5		
		2		5	6			
1	3						9	4
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HOW TO PLAY

Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9 with no repeats

DIFFICULTY LEVEL

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4	8	6	5	7	9	1	3	2
7	5	1	2	8	3	4	6	9
3	9	2	7	6	4	5	8	1
6	4	5	8	1	2	3	9	7
8	1	7	3	9	5	6	2	4

ACROSS

1 Resort
6 Godzilla foe
11 Dwarf
14 Limericks and odes
15 Yale of Yale
16 Excessively
17 Glasses, slangily
18 Thick of things
19 Where, to Cicero
20 "A Bell for —"
22 Windows precursor (hyph.)
24 Stone broke (hyph.)
28 Command
29 Funny feeling
30 Oklahoma tribe
32 — 500
33 Door fasteners
35 — "La Douce"
39 Sleek sled
40 Frat letter
41 Zen question
42 Wedding-cake part
43 Reduces calories
45 Sends a bill collector
46 More aloof
48 Boogie—
50 Steam rooms
53 Hot cereal
54 Be contingent on
55 Regular hangout
57 Equator segment

DOWN

1 Hi-fi records
2 Comics caveman
3 Kiki or Joey
4 Truck mfr.
5 Dryden works
6 Survey again
7 Dutra of golf
8 Lover of Aeneas
9 Happy sighs
10 Eggnog topper
11 Piano composition
12 Gray wolves
13 Palm off
21 Fencing match
23 Abu Dhabi, e.g.
24 Having a good physique
25 Languor
26 Flowerpot spot
27 Way to keep warm
28 —-relief
30 Earth pigment
31 Comedy routine
34 Sheriff Taylor's kid

PREVIOUS PUZZLE SOLVED

R	A	D	A	R	C	H	A	P	P	E	S	T
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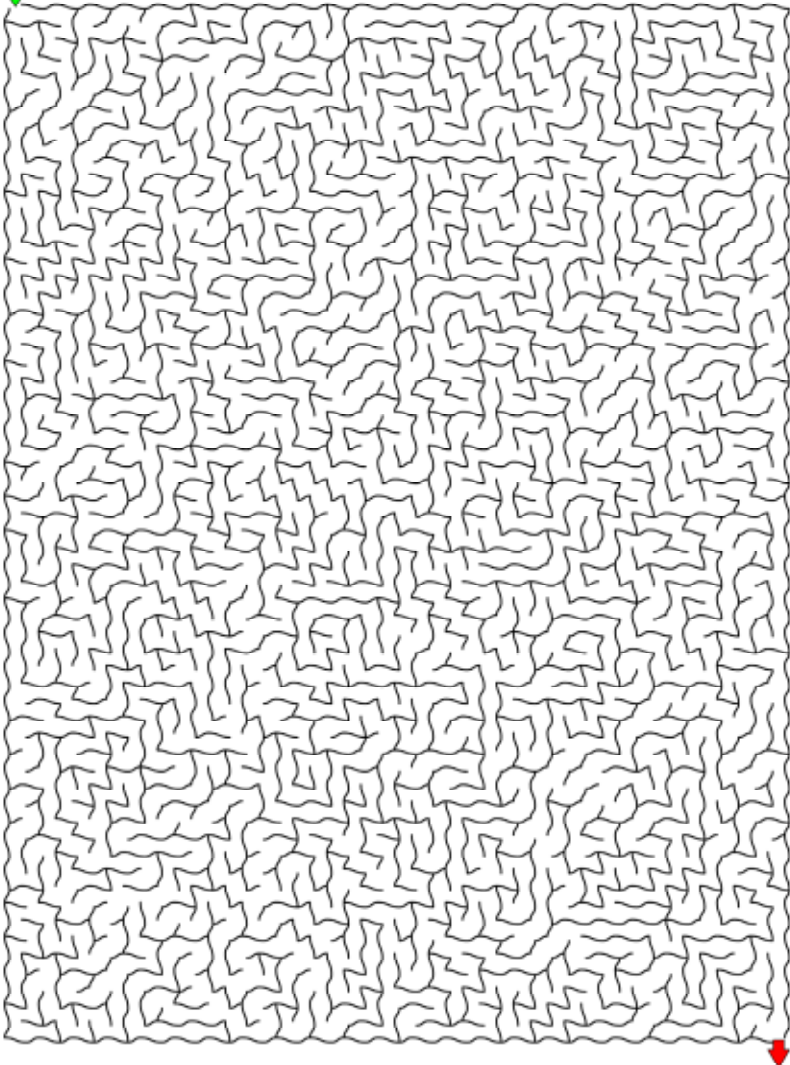
36 Make-up item
37 Obsession
38 Photographer
43 Insult, slangily
44 Long-necked bird
47 Brutus betrayed him
49 Canada's capital
50 Mold
51 Buenos —
52 Pop a top

53 Deposes
55 Kisses go-with
56 Sunblock additive
59 Gold, in Peru
61 Subzero comment
62 Up till now
63 Eur. airline
64 Diver's milieu

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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68					69					70		



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Vorster leads Rebel Netters



FILE PHOTO | The Daily Mississippian

Ole Miss tennis player Tucker Vorster prepares to backhand a serve in a match earlier this spring. Vorster finished the Southeastern Conference portion of the schedule 7-3 in singles play. ve.

BY JOHN HOLT
The Daily Mississippian

At first glance, Ole Miss senior Tucker Vorster looks as if he would be better suited for the basketball hardwood than any type of tennis surface.

Standing at 6-foot-5, Vorster — known as “Dragon” by nearly everyone — towers over most of his opponents whenever he steps onto a tennis court.

“I’ve always been outgoing and pretty loud,” Vorster said. “I guess I might have been annoying sometimes toward other players, but that’s just what college tennis is all about.

“Since I came here, I’ve loved supporting the guys, and I enjoy seeing the guys respond and lift their games when supported by their teammates, so that’s always been a part of who I am.”

Vorster, a psychology major, began playing tennis at the age of five in his hometown Pretoria, South Africa.

While rugby and cricket are the two most popular sports in South Africa, Vorster’s mother

was a tennis instructor during his childhood and thought it would be beneficial to teach him the sport.

“Tennis was always my main sport,” Vorster said. “But I did swimming, soccer and everything I could as a kid. When I got to high school, I focused primarily on tennis.”

As Vorster progressed and developed as a junior tennis prospect, several colleges began to show interest. The final three schools on his list were Illinois, Wisconsin and Ole Miss.

Vorster said the Rebel tennis tradition and head coach Billy Chadwick were the two biggest factors in his decision to ultimately join the Ole Miss tennis program in the fall of 2007.

“Not only has Coach Chadwick been an amazing coach, but he’s also been a father figure to me in the time I’ve been here,” Vorster said. “He does so much for all of us on and off the court. I can’t even say enough good things about him. He’s a great tennis coach, a wonderful motivator.

“He gets the best out of his players, and off the court, (he) is one of the nicest guys I’ve ever met. It’s been an honor to play for him and to play here at Ole Miss.”

In his four years as a Rebel, Vorster has helped Ole Miss capture two SEC Tournament Championships, one SEC regular-season championship, three SEC West titles and back-to-back NCAA Elite Eight appearances in 2008 and 2009.

“Tucker plays with great emotion and has the ability to ignite the team,” Chadwick said. “This has contributed in a big way to our success.”

While the Rebels have not had the season that many envisioned — Ole Miss snapped its streak of nine consecutive SEC West titles — Vorster finished the SEC regular season with an impressive 7-3 record in singles play.

As the Rebels begin preparation for the NCAA Tournament, Dragon appears to be more confident than ever. This past week-

See VORTSER, PAGE 15

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BRANDO,
continued from page 16

mizing the athletic ability of every player he has. You look at the final result, and the fans see 4-8. That record should have been 6-6 rather than 4-8. Even Houston would admit to that, and has admitted to that in conversations with me.

But the reality is that you're in a league that nobody is going to come down to you. You have to play up to it. The conference is just so strong that somebody is always going to be 5-7 and 4-8. The margin for error between an 8-4 team and 4-8 team is slim. And when the ball doesn't bounce properly and when you have one of those moments where you don't play up to the level you need to be effective, you're going to be exposed. That's what happened to that team, that, along with a rash of injuries that he would not use nor would any other coach use as an excuse but as broadcasters – for us to be objective in taking a look at how a team progresses or doesn't progress – we have to take a look at it.

They had severe issues with injuries as well as youth in their secondary. On an offensive standpoint, I don't think he expected to have to scored 50 points to win every game. You kind of got the feeling for Ole Miss to win they had to score on every possession offensively. That's putting a lot of pressure on your offensive team. I don't care how many good skill players you have.

I know that's a long-winded answer, but the short answer is yes. He is a proven winner in this league, and in my opinion is a guy that if there are ever any issues in his future, he would never have to wait long for a job. There are people that would line up to have Houston as their head football coach.

Is there a moment that sticks out when covering Ole Miss?

I was really fortunate in football to call a number of Deuce McAllister's games. It was a real thrill. I had just left ESPN and it was before I got to CBS. During that time I was doing the early SEC games – what we used to call the Jefferson Pilot early window games that are now

ESPN syndicated SEC network games, the ones that are played at 11:30 central time. You remember how much LSU fans love when they move their games from night time to 11:30 in the morning? They don't like it all.

I believe this was in 1995. LSU had just beaten No. 1 Florida in prime time the year before Florida won the national title. Gerry Dinardo was coaching LSU that year. They beat Florida in prime time and the following week Ole Miss came in there to play LSU. The game was moved to 11:30.

You have to remember that I cut my teeth as a broadcaster in Baton Rouge. I actually started out calling games for LSU for their pay-per-view cable outlet called Tiger Vision when I was still in my mid-20s. It was always interesting after my period at ESPN when I started doing games for Jefferson Pilot. I was probably the only guy that was going back – (Louisiana) was our home for seven years – that was booed by LSU fans because the fact that Tim Brando was coming into the stadium and the game was starting before noon. They didn't like me at all.

LSU was riding high. The fans were obviously fat and happy after a victory over a No. 1 Florida team. Tommy Tuberville came in with a group of guys that were not nearly as talented, with a young, small quarterback named Stewart Patridge. They had a tight end named Rufus French who may have caught 10 or 11 passes that day. Tuberville – I gave him his nickname, the "Mississippi River Boat Gambler" – during that period. He still gives me credit for giving him the nickname, and he still talks about it and likes it. He went for four first downs in that game while he was in his own territory – very, very questionable decisions. He converted every one of them, and Ole Miss won.

I think it was really one of the games that Ole Miss fans will always remember. I think it was one of the biggest wins that Tommy has in his

career and it helped him build a resume and he's become one of the top 10 or so coaches of his time. His reputation was really founded on that game. And he had others beside that. He did the same thing at Georgia between the hedges. His first game as head coach, I'll always remember this. It was his first SEC game and it was in that 11:30 window. I'll never forget I got to walk with the team with Tommy, and he actually had his infant kid, and we opened the broadcast of us walking right at the front of the line all the way to Vaught-Hemingway. That was an experience unlike anything I've been a part of. It was a tremendous memory for me, just living out sort of a history and a tradition of what that is, the walk through the Grove that the team makes. Those two road games, the wins against Georgia and LSU stick out in my mind – Ole Miss winning both and going for fourth downs as many times as they did and I being able to give Tommy the nickname the River Boat Gambler.

In baseball, when the new baseball stadium was first constructed, I believe the first season was 1990. I had the opportunity to do a game in a brand new baseball stadium. They were so proud of it. I remember Warner Alford, who was then athletics director, was so thrilled to have the late Tug McGraw come in to call the game with me on ESPN. In those days we didn't have Major League Baseball on ESPN yet, but we did college games every Sunday night. As a favor to Warner Alford, ESPN said 'We're going to come in and do a game there.' It was the first and only time that I got to work with Tug. It was only the second time that Tug ever met a young man that he had only found out a year or two earlier was his son who happend to be from Delhi, La. He drove over from Delhi to meet his dad for just the second time, and I met him and we went to Old Taylor Grocery with Langston Rogers together. Langston – it was always a custom – took the TV crews out to Old Taylor Grocery. That kid –

and he was a kid at the time – was Tim McGraw. That's a pretty special moment that I'll always have to remember baseball in Oxford.

I actually did an interview with Tim on my radio show and I obviously knew what he had done. I spoke to him as part of the publicity that he was doing for the movie "The Blindside." In that movie, he plays Sean Tuohy, whom I've known from Louisiana since he played at Ole Miss in the early 80s. So I'm talking to Tim – I knew he knew me and I certainly knew him, but we hadn't talked in 20-plus years. And so I said 'When you heard you were going to be on my radio show, what was the first thing that went through your mind?' And he said, "Ole Miss, Tim. Ole Miss."

Do you think Ole Miss basketball with Andy Kennedy – or with anybody – has a chance at competing in the SEC?

I feel Ole Miss is not unlike most schools in the SEC West when it comes to basketball. I don't doubt that Andy Kennedy is a solid basketball coach, and being from Mississippi he certainly knows a thing or two about the area that he's coaching in. But my doubts are relative to how successful how anyone can be in basketball in the SEC West is really not an indictment of anybody coaching or playing, but how much does the fan base and the administration at the school care? Is there a passion for basketball to be successful.

I've seen that diminish in the last five to 10 years. It's just incredible to me to think how far schools like LSU and Arkansas have slipped. Ole Miss has actually been doing a better job in the win/loss column than either one of those schools. And those two schools have been to Final Fours. The one case in the last five years was LSU in the Final Four. Arkansas has a basketball tradition, they have a National Title in '94. They were one of the most relevant programs in the country. When they came into the league in 1992, they were the only team in the West that challenged Kentucky

for supremacy. And yet they're in the middle of a coaching change right now because they have struggled so much. And maybe with the hiring of Mike Davis, who was part of that run that Nolan Richardson had, maybe they'll turn things around.

I'm just amazed that there hasn't been pressure brought from the fan base or the administration of the schools to be great at basketball. There seems to be a level of apathy for the sport that is troubling. I love college basketball. It's more than just what connects football with spring football. I don't buy into that at all. I think the NCAA Tournament is the greatest amateur sporting event that we have in the country. It far exceeds the college football bowl season. To not want to be a part of that or not to care to be a part of that is something that is troubling to me. And when I say that, I don't mean the schools, I mean the fans. The schools and the administrations that represent these schools are going to react to what the place is calling for. If fans don't value a sport, it's going to show up. And I think it has in the handful of years. It's almost as if with the emergence of the SEC as the dominant power in football with five-straight national championships – it's almost worked in concert with basketball in the SEC West as being in a position to hit the skids. Alabama, who I thought had a really good season, won 12 games and won the SEC West and wasn't even worthy of an at-large bid. The reason is that nobody in the SEC West could give them a bump in the RPI because the teams were so bad. I certainly hope that all the schools in the SEC West get up to speed. Actually, Ole Miss has been more successful than Arkansas and LSU, which to me is a little bit surprising with the infrastructure being what it is at both schools and with their recent success being what it has been. Ole Miss has never had the same kind of history to call upon that some of those other schools have had when it comes to basketball.

VORSTER,
continued from page 14

end at the SEC Tournament he recorded the best win of his career when he upset Tennessee's Rhyne Williams, the nation's No. 3-ranked player, in straight sets 6-3, 6-4. With the win, his ITA National Singles Ranking skyrocketed from No. 75 to No. 50 nationally.

"I just want to be remembered as one of the biggest fighters on the court," Vorster said. "No matter what the score is, no matter who you play or where you play or when you play, I feel like I always give 110 percent and fight till the end. That's how I'd like to be remembered."

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Q&A with sportscaster Tim Brando

BY PAUL KATOOL
Sports Editor

Tim Brando, who works for CBS Sports and Fox Sports Net, will be in Oxford on Friday to discuss his career covering college athletics. Brando talked to DM sports editor Paul Katool about his career and various topics regarding Ole Miss sports.

Take me through how you started your career, and how you got to where you are now?

There are different paths that we all have to take. There are different advantages that all of us have the good fortune of having. I was raised in a broadcasting family. My dad helped put the first television station on the air in my home town in Shreveport, La. I pretty much grew up around radio and television. It was in my blood from the very beginning. I don't remember being alive when I didn't think about being on television. Television was first to me, and sports came along as I grew up and became more aware of who I was.

As a youngster, like a lot of kids, I looked up to my dad and wanted to be just like my dad. My dad was

an entertainer, he was a broadcaster, he was a producer, director, a salesman – you name it. He had to do it all. His generation was the first television generation, the World War II generation. When he got back from the war, he knew what he wanted and radio was the big deal in the 40s and the 50s and then television became kind of what our Internet, and Twitter and social networking world is today. That's what television was back then. He, like a lot of other guys who were interested and involved, decided to find out everything they could find out about the business and really become one of the pioneers of my home town. And so as a youngster, growing up in the 60s, that's all I knew. I was around it all my life.

By the time I was 14-years old – and in the ninth grade – I had been broadcasting games in my front yard and my back yard. I had gotten a cassette recorder I was given in 1969 and 1970 when they first started making them. I would go into my room and lock myself in and turn down the volume on the television set and call the game on Saturdays and Sundays and

put myself in my own little world there. Even with the other interests that I had, I did play ball too. I was a pretty decent baseball player and basketball player to some extent. I played football up until the ninth grade, and when I got hurt I decided rather than put myself in the position to have my voice be raised I put up my shoulder pads and start calling games. My dad had an opportunity to give me a chance to broadcast side-by-side with him when I was 14 years old. I did that in the ninth grade, and I haven't stopped since. That was a long time ago. It's been 40-plus years that I've been at this. I don't think I've ever thought about doing anything other than this.

Ole Miss had a tough year last year, finishing 4-8. Does Houston Nutt have what it takes to turn it around next year?

I think Houston is one of the game-day coaches in college football. I think he's one of the very bright minds offensively, and I think he's also a great motivator. He takes a backseat to nobody to maxi-



CONTRIBUTED BY TARA BRANDO

Tim Brando is an anchor for CBS Sports and Fox Sports Net.

See BRANDO, PAGE 15

Powe, Masoli among Ole Miss draft hopefuls

BY AUSTIN MILLER
The Daily Mississippian

This year's NFL Draft, which returns to prime time for the second-straight year, offers fans a reprieve from the on-again, off-again news of NFL labor situation.

The first round takes place on Thursday night at 7 p.m., followed by the second and third rounds on Friday night at 5 p.m., and the fourth through seventh

rounds on Saturday at 11 a.m.

The lockout itself was lifted and the players were granted an injunction, but uncertainty remains for both current players and this year's incoming draft class. Despite the injunctions, current NFL players find themselves, for all intensive purposes, locked out and unable to report and workout at their respective team facilities.

For the 254 players selected, they will be unable to sign with

their teams until the lockout is over and, even then, the new collective bargaining agreement would likely include a rookie wage scale, significantly decreasing the amount of money given to early round draft picks.

For undrafted players, such as BenJarvus Green-Ellis in 2008, the previously open market of free agency after the draft is closed with the lockout as these players will be unable to contact or sign

with NFL teams.

Since 2001, six Ole Miss Rebel football players have been drafted in the first round, including quarterback Eli Manning who was drafted first overall by the San Diego Chargers and then subsequently traded to the New York Giants in the 2004 Draft.

Last year, four Ole Miss players were drafted, led by running back/wide receiver Dexter McCluster and safety Kendrick Lewis, both

drafted by the Kansas City Chiefs in the fourth and fifth rounds, respectively.


Defensive tackle Jerrell Powe headlines this year's class of 13 NFL Draft hopefuls. Most draft projections have Powe as the first Ole Miss player off the board in the middle rounds.

The next tier of prospects that could go in late rounds or sign as undrafted free agents includes defensive tackles Ted Laurent and Lawon Scott, safeties Johnny Brown and Fon Ingram and linebacker Jonathan Cornell. Of the five players, Laurent and Scott have the measurables due to their size and strength, while Cornell has the production as he led Ole Miss in tackles (80) and tackles for loss (14) last season.

The wildcard of this year's draft class is, without a doubt, quarterback Jeremiah Masoli. If a NFL team takes a flier on Masoli in this weekend's draft or waits out the lockout and signs him as undrafted free agent, he will likely change positions to running back or wide receiver and, perhaps, play some wildcat quarterback.

However, in addition to his pro day at Ole Miss and a local pro day for the San Francisco 49ers, Masoli has also worked out for the Canadian Football League's Edmonton Eskimos.

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